

Centertown Chiders.

August 31st, 1885.

Editor Herald:
We are still fearfully dry. Crops in many places in the county are nearly ruined, and the dust is just awful.

Business, however, remains comparatively good. Commercial tourists can trace their frequent visits to our town. Alvin Rowe, one of our most popular dry goods boys, has been on the sick list for a short time, but I am glad to note he is up again.

The cases of sickness reported in my last letter are all convalescing.

Virgie Bishop is sick with diph.

Mrs. A. G. Warden went to Hartford last week to see her sister, Mrs. Hoover, who is quite sick.

Mrs. J. A. Hatcher has a severe case of typhoid fever. Also the widow Fulkerson.

Rev. Mr. Brandon preached a series of sermons here the first of last week with a view of getting up a revival, but closed out on Wednesday night last.

Miss Sallie G. Warden went to Hartford last week to see her sister, Mrs. Hoover, who is quite sick.

Marcelline and Mrs. Brown, of Thelma, Ill., who had been visiting relatives for two or three months past, had intended to leave for home Friday last, but the night before they should have started, Mrs. Brown's husband came in, and now they will remain another week or more.

Miss Mauda Wade has been visiting relatives near Buckhorn the past week.

Miss Annie Percival, an amiable and modest young lady, and her little brother, Larkin, who have been spending the summer with their aunt, Mrs. S. W. Jones, will leave for their home in Elizabethtown to-day. They made many friends during their visit here.

Miss Sallie Jones, their cousin, will accompany them home. Miss Sallie will be gone some time.

Several couples from Central Grove, attended the church dedication at Woodward's Valley yesterday.

The Stull Bros. have commenced the erection of their new store house. They will have a cellar under the basement story.

Jack Ross is building an excellent tobacco barn forty-four feet square.

J. M. Bishop's communications new stock train is nearing completion. It will be one of the best barns in this part of the county.

C. T. Warden recently sold to A. C. Moorman, of Mendenhall county, a yearling bull for seventy-five dollars.

Mr. Warden's fine Norman mare, bought in Illinois last winter, has calved two months old, which for size and form is hard to beat in this county.

Barney Patterson sold to B. T. Lighthart a two-year-old colt for one hundred and forty dollars. A good price for these dry times.

Stroud & Dexter have been doing some splendid sawing since they started up last time.

S. T. Brown has lately given the finishing touches to his new residence. Tom has one of the most and best residences in this part of the county.

Miss Emma Brown and little brother, from near Rochester, visited relatives near here last week.

Eq. W. L. Rowe and wife visited relatives near McHenry Saturday and Sunday.

Jake Warden has cut one hundred and sixty sticks of tobacco.

Hog chiders are destroying a number of hogs in this vicinity.

The last year's crop of corn is exhausted.

There was never a greater scarcity of water than now. Many persons have to carry their supplies from long distances. Eight or ten families get all they use from the Hartford spring, on the John S. Miller place. Some drive their stock to Rough creek.

H. S. Ford, wife and little child were here on a visit to their daughter, Mrs. Hines, a week ago.

The ladies have had the church nicely lighted up with the money made some time ago. They put up two chandeliers with two lamps each and two bracket lamps—six in all—which add greatly to the convenience during the after night exercises.

Tramps are becoming unpleasantly numerous in these parts of late. One was rendering himself so obnoxious in the Providence neighborhood one day last week that Uncle Eli Rowe had him put in his wagon and taken to Hartford, where he was given up to the County Judge.

J. Burke Wade is engaged collecting for a medicine firm. He will be out two or three weeks.

Uncle Buck Wade says he has better corn and will make more than at any time for five years. He has eight or ten feet of water in his two wells, and in fact, little cause to complain of the drought.

Shrove Syrup.
August 25th, 1885.

Editor Herald:
A series of meetings began here last Sabbath, conducted by Rev. B. F. Jenkins. Up to this time there have been three additions to the church, and many more are anxiously inquiring the way of salvation, and the prospects are good for a great revival at old Pleasant Grove church.

Aunt Frankie Shreve is very ill and her recovery is doubtful.

James Freys little girl has flux and is now probably dead.

Obituary.
Died, August 3d, at 6 o'clock P. M., from an overdose of Sengguin, taken through mistake, Rolla, of Shreve. In attempting to write this obituary, I do not wish to vilify the dead, but Rolla's life had been a continuous mistake. During the war he kept silent, on the return of peace he fell into Republican ranks, which was a mistake. He became a candidate for the Legislature, and Hon. J. S. Taylor showed him his mistake. He tried it again and was elected and his record showed the people their mistake. During this time Rolla had been a "Soft Shell."

Washington Letter.

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The court, which was organized in 1874 to hear proof of claims to be paid out of the \$5,000,000 awarded by the Geneva arbitration commission, was continued by various acts of Congress. In December, 1877, it was constituted of two judges at an annual salary of \$6,000 each, and a clerk at \$3,000, and an attorney at \$2,500, and a stenographer at \$2,500. Provision was made for rent of court rooms, printing, stationery, furniture, fuel and other incidental necessary expenses, all to be paid out of the funds before judgments were paid. The court was reorganized by law in 1882 with the same officers and salaries as before, except only three judges. When Controller Dunham came to look into the accounts of the court he found outside of the officers named as authorized by Congress, it had on the pay rolls an assistant counsel for the United States, clerk to the assistant counsel, experts, assistant experts, clerks to experts, messengers, watchmen, etc., whose salaries amounted to \$34,500 per year. The Controller also found in the quarterly returns that there had been paid to other assistants counsel over \$5,000 for the quarter ending December 31, 1884, and about \$7,000 for the quarter ending March 31, 1885, besides other illegal payments. Among these special counsel so employed are Walker Blaine, F. D. Hunt, Hamilton Fish, Jr., George F. Fredlinghausen and others. These payments were endorsed as correct by the presiding judge of the court. The Controller finds no law authorizing these payments, and after consulting with the Secretary of the Treasury he has decided to stop all future payments of the claims.

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Several of the men involved in the charges have recently built cottages at Colonial Beach and elsewhere, and furnished them with most advantageous terms. Windows and door cases and other materials used in building the cottages are said to have been stolen ready-made, or in handy shape, from the new pension building, and carpets, chairs, desks and other useful articles of furniture which have greatly contributed to the elegance of the cottage interiors, were obtained from the same source. Most of the work of erecting these cottages, it is said, was done by carpenters and laborers employed by the pension bureau and paid by the United States government.

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AUSTIN, TEX., Aug. 20, 1885.

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It seems that Rolla's enthusiasm is so balanced on his shoulders that when any one crosses his path a little and touches the tender string of that great ligament I like to have said heart, and would, if I had ever given me any evidence that he had one, he resorts to the public press to give them an airing. It seems that John, the Teacher, and I, the Ex-Merchant, touched him off in the last election because we preferred to vote for Hon. S. E. Hill, (who is a high-toned, honorable gentleman, one that we never heard ought against) in preference to Rolla, the professional fish-slugger of Pattersonville.

Rolla has some sterling qualities of both stomach and brain. He can take Ashbury for breakfast, Sengguin for dinner and Sam Fiddle for supper and still feel that he had spent most of his time at Stratford Hotel.

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Rolla is a smart man, because he has said so himself and has publicly demonstrated in his recent canvass for the Senate; besides, B. A. W. said so too, though in the HERALD last May. When E. C. Hubbard was favorably spoken of to make the race, B. A. W. presents the claims of a very honorable gentleman in the person of Dr. J. W. Meador, and said the Dr. was not represented in the last Republican Convention, and his name not even mentioned. It seemed that B. A. W. envied more wisdom within himself than there was in the entire party. Oh no! Please excuse me for accusing you of that, because I was satisfied before I had read three lines that you were not the author—that Rolla had laid the egg and hatched it himself.

Next we find Rolla a candidate for the Legislature, where the Ohio county Convention, and was there defeated by a respectable majority, but his third for office was not satisfied. We next find him before the Republican Senatorial Convention, but E. C. Hubbard was the first choice but declined to make the race. Rolla being second choice, accepted the nomination, which was further evidence that he was a smart man, but he liked so bad for office he could not help it, and I like to see such a one get scratched.

Next we found him "busted" and going up Salt river.

If I am not mistaken, Rolla carried Fordsville on a former occasion by 26 majority, but he lost it this time by 53 majority, and if Hon. S. E. Hill ever visited the district during the canvass I am not aware of it. That was enough to make Rolla feel "busted."

It seems that John, the Teacher, and I, the Ex-Merchant, were very conspicuous in the mind of Rolla, while going up Salt river. Well, I have always noticed that you will find plenty of clods thrown at the tree that bears the best fruit.

Rolla's trip up Salt river had great purifying qualities. He now acts gentle, paints his cheeks, dyes his whiskers and is still a dashing widower.

EX-MERCHANT.
A Walking Skeleton.
Mr. E. Springer, of Mechanicsburg, Pa., writes: "I was afflicted with lung fever and abscess on lungs, and reduced to a walking skeleton. Got a free trial bottle of Dr. King's New Discovery for consumption, which did me so much good that I bought a dollar bottle. After using three bottles, found myself once more a man, completely restored to health, with a hearty appetite, and a gain in flesh of 45 lbs."